

REMARKS

Claims 1-12

Claims 1-2 and 7-9 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Greenlaw (6,922,456). Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenlaw in view of Zak (6,360,337). Claims 4-6 and 10-12 have been objected to as containing allowable subject matter, but which depend from a rejected base claim. Claim 1 is an independent claim, from which claims 2-12 ultimately depend. Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite the allowable subject matter of claim 10, and has cancelled claim 10. Claims 11-12 have been amended to depend from claim 1 instead of from claim 10. Applicant therefore submits that claims 1-9 and 11-12 are patentable.

Claims 13-15

Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Greenlaw. Claim 14 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenlaw in view of Zak. Claim 15 has been objected to as containing allowable subject matter, but which depends from a rejected base claim. Claim 13 is an independent claim; claim 14 depends from claim 13; and, claim 15 depends from claim 14. Applicant has amended claim 13 to recite the allowable subject matter of claim 15, as well as the subject matter of claim 14, and has cancelled claims 14-15. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 13 is patentable.

Claims 16-20

Claims 16-18 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zak. Claim 19 has been objected to as containing allowable subject matter, but which depends from a rejected base claim. Claim 16 is an independent claim, from which claims 17-20 ultimately

depend. Applicant has amended claim 16 to recite the allowable subject matter of claim 19, and has cancelled claim 19. Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 16-18 and 20 are patentable.

Conclusion

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the pending claims in condition for allowance, and request that they so be allowed. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Mike Dryja, Applicants' Attorney, at 425-427-5094, so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. Applicant particularly requests that the Examiner call Mr. Dryja if there are any minor issues that can be resolved over the phone and/or by Examiner's amendment, instead of issuing another office action, so that this patent application can issue as a patent without undue delay. For these reasons, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Date

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